

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 454

Directing the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives to take all necessary steps to make voting records of Members of the House and other information on the legislative activities of the House accessible on the Internet through the official homepage of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 1996

Ms. LOFGREN (for herself and Mr. FARR of California) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Directing the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives to take all necessary steps to make voting records of Members of the House and other information on the legislative activities of the House accessible on the Internet through the official homepage of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

3 This resolution may be cited as the “Citizens’ Right
4 To Know Resolution”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 The House of Representatives finds the following:

1 (1) Most individuals find that obtaining docu-
2 ments relating to the legislative activities of the
3 House is extremely difficult and time-consuming.

4 (2) The access of citizens to information on
5 such activities is vitally important to the continuing
6 success of our system of government.

7 (3) The dissemination on the Internet of infor-
8 mation on the legislative activities of the 104th Con-
9 gress has been declared to be a priority of the
10 House.

11 (4) Although some progress has been made in
12 making information available, important legislative
13 information (particularly the voting records of Mem-
14 bers of the House) is not yet accessible through the
15 official homepage of the House, even though there
16 are no technological barriers to making this informa-
17 tion available.

18 **SEC. 3. IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO INFORMATION.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 15 days after the
20 adoption of this resolution, the Committee on House Over-
21 sight of the House of Representatives shall take all steps
22 necessary to make all information on the legislative activi-
23 ties of the House of Representatives currently available
24 to the public in the Congressional Record (including voting
25 records of Members in the House or in the Committee of

1 the Whole) accessible through the homepage or other pub-
2 lic data facility operated on the Internet as the official
3 data facility of the House of Representatives at the same
4 time the information is made available in print form.

5 (b) SEARCHABLE PRESENTATION OF INFORMA-
6 TION.—In carrying out subsection (a)(1), the Committee
7 on House Oversight shall make the information currently
8 available in the Congressional Record accessible through
9 the homepage or other data facility without modification,
10 except that the Committee shall present the information
11 in an easily searchable, indexed database which facilitates
12 public access to information on the activities of individual
13 Members of the House of Representatives and on other
14 legislative activities of the House of Representatives.

15 **SEC. 4. ENCOURAGING FURTHER PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY.**

16 Not later than 60 days after the adoption of this reso-
17 lution, the Committee on House Oversight of the House
18 of Representatives shall submit a report to the House on
19 its strategy for increasing public access to Congressional
20 documents and to information on the legislative activities
21 of the House of Representatives (including activities in
22 committees) accessible through the Internet and on the
23 status of its current projects to carry out the strategy,
24 including a description of the reasons for any delays in

- 1 the implementation of such projects and recommendations
- 2 for steps to remove such delays.

